

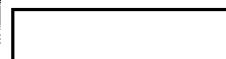
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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION MEMORANDUM



CHICOM-PRODUCED  
INFILTRATION SHIPS AT  
HAIPHONG INFILTRATION  
SUPPORT BASE



25X1

SEPTEMBER 1968

COPY **118**

3 PAGES

25X1

Declass Review by NIMA / DoD

GROUP 1 EXCLUDED FROM  
AUTOMATIC DOWNGRADING  
AND DECLASSIFICATION

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## CHICOM-PRODUCED INFILTRATION SHIPS AT HAIPHONG INFILTRATION SUPPORT BASE

Recent low-level photography over Haiphong, North Vietnam, revealed the presence of two Chinese-produced infiltration vessels at the Haiphong Maritime Hospital, which appears to be a support base for the North Vietnamese 125th Infiltration Squadron. The two classes of vessels have been designated as small logistics (SL)-type units, to connote cargo vessels used in resupply and infiltration. The class designations of these two units are SL-2 and SL-3.

Three types of Chinese-produced SL vessels have been observed in North Vietnam. The first unit to be observed was the SL-3, which was identified retrospectively as being at Haiphong during [REDACTED]. The second class of infiltration vessel supplied was the SL-1<sup>1</sup>, a larger vessel built at a shipyard apparently constructed solely for the production of logistics vessels for North Vietnam. The SL-2<sup>2</sup> is the latest contribution to the gun runner fleet, initial deliveries to the North Vietnamese being made during the summer of 1967.

25X1D

Although the SL-1 units remained in North Vietnam, the SL-2 and SL-3 vessels operated from Hsinhsing Shih Naval Base, on the northwest corner of Hainan Island, a base possibly constructed primarily to support infiltration operations. It appears that the 125th squadron chose to sortie infiltration missions from the Hainan sanctuary, rather than risk possible interdiction along the coast of North Vietnam, and returned to Haiphong only after the bombing cessation.

The SL-2 (Figure 1), measuring approximately [REDACTED] in length and 20 feet in beam, is the larger of the two recently observed units. Presently under serial production at the Luta Shipyard in northeastern China, the SL-2 is a high speed craft, reportedly capable of about 20 knots. The SL-2 has three probable twin barrel 14.5 mm heavy machinegun mounts, two forward concealed under canvas and a third aft concealed under a chicken coop-like structure. The concealed armament is reminiscent of that used on [REDACTED]

25X1D

The SL-3 (Figure 2) is a trawler-rigged unit measuring approximately [REDACTED] in overall length and 20 feet in beam. It is armed with three 12.7 mm heavy machineguns. Vessels of this class have been intercepted and determined to be of Chinese origin, although no evidence as to the location of the producing shipyard is available.

25X6

25X1D

25X1

1 [REDACTED] Chicom Shipyard Production Supports North Vietnam, and NPIC/R-41/67, New Class Probable AKL.

25X6

25X1

2 [REDACTED] Luta Shipyard Builds Gun Runners, Luta, China.

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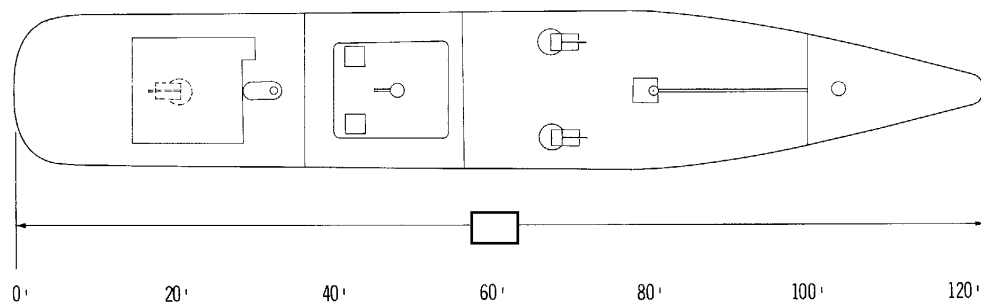
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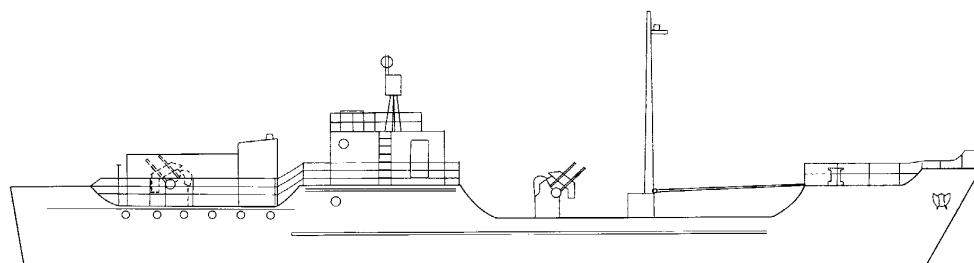
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PROVISIONAL DRAWING



NPIC M-4597

FIGURE 1. SL-2.

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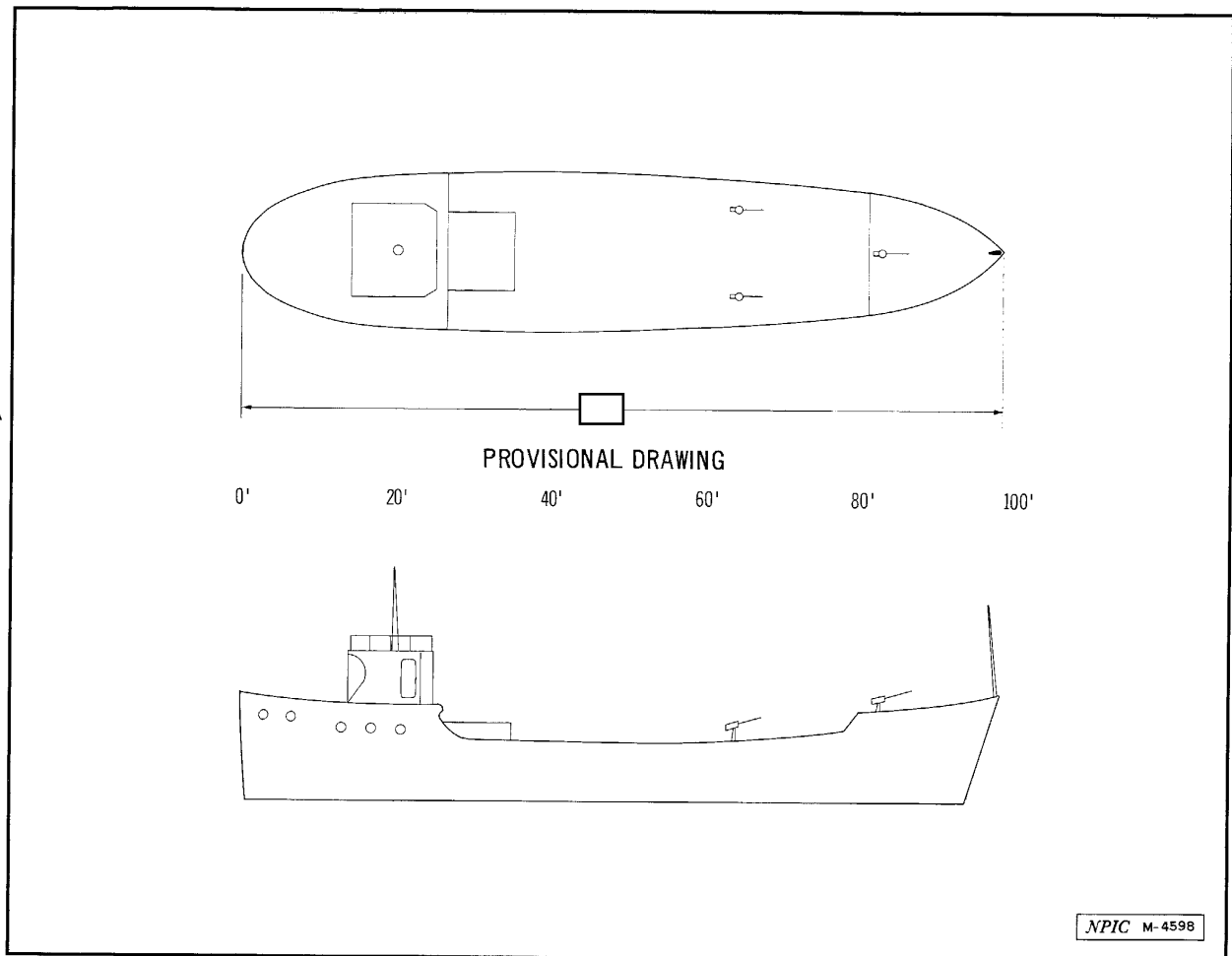


FIGURE 2. SL-3.

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TOP SECRET 25X1A

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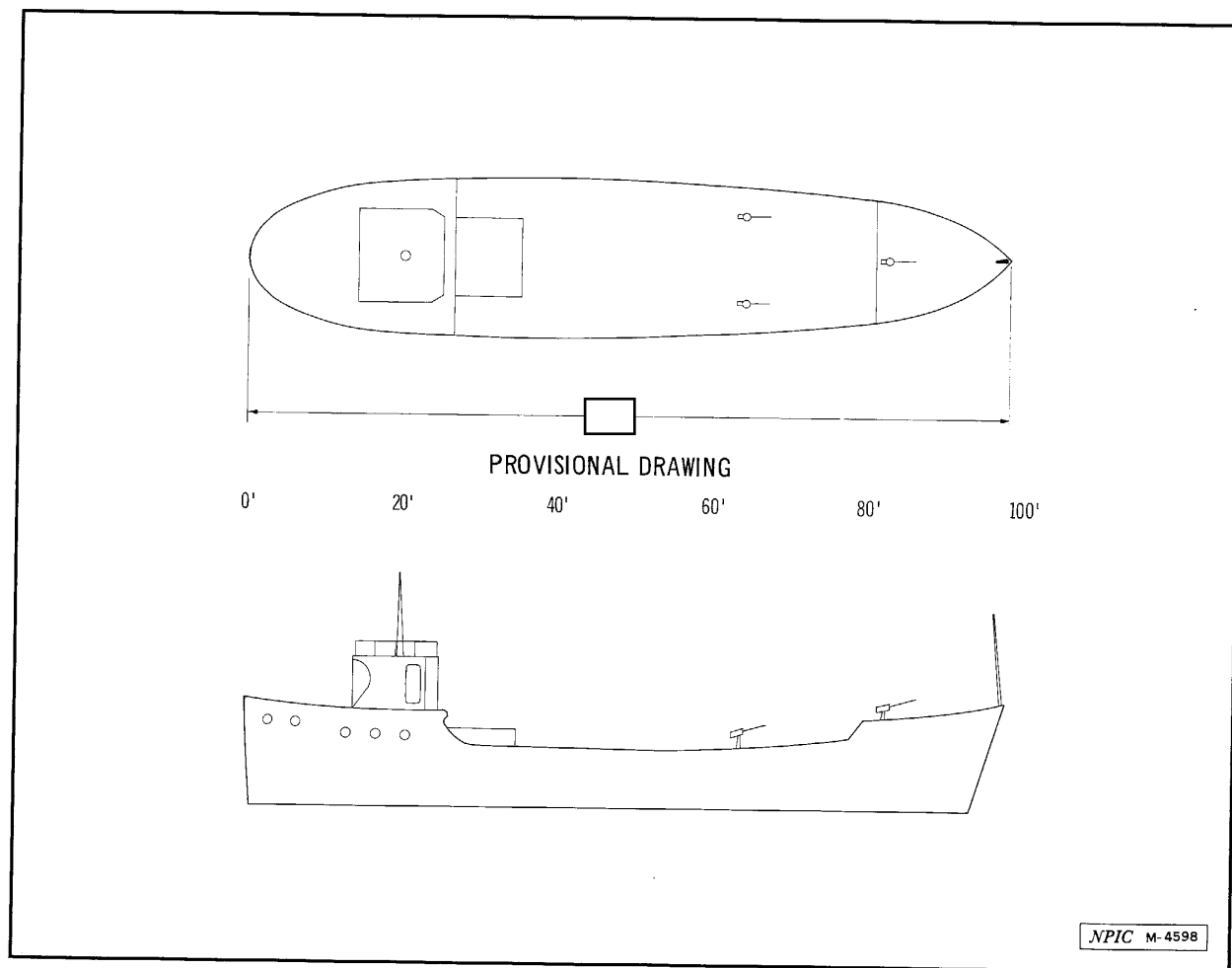


FIGURE 2. SL-3.



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